



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D'C 20463

APR 16 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Melanie Sloan, Executive Director
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington
1400 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

RE: MUR 5789
Bacardi U.S.A., Inc.
Bacardi U.S.A., Inc. PAC and Robert
Higdon, in his official capacity as treasurer
Martinez for Senate and Nancy H. Watkins,
in her official capacity as treasurer
Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate and Peggy
Gagnon, in her official capacity as treasurer

Dear Ms. Sloan

On April 3, 2007 Election Commission reviewed the allegations in your complaints dated August 14 and October 25, 2006, and found that on the basis of the information provided in your complaint, the responses, and other information, there is no reason to believe Bacardi U.S.A., Inc. ("Bacardi") violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b and 11 C.F.R. § 114.2(f) by using a list of corporate vendors in connection with certain fundraisers; Bacardi PAC violated the Act; Martinez for Senate and Nancy H. Watkins, in her official capacity as treasurer ("Martinez Committee"), violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b by knowingly accepting prohibited contributions; or that Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate and Peggy Gagnon, in her official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b by knowingly accepting prohibited contributions. At the same time, the Commission dismissed allegations that Bacardi violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b and 11 C.F.R. § 114.2(f) by failing to obtain pre-payment from Bacardi PAC for catering expenses and that the Martinez Committee violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(3)(A) and 11 C.F.R. § 104.7(b) by failing to provide employer information for certain contributors, but sent admonishments to these Respondents. Accordingly, on April 3, 2007, the Commission closed the file in this matter.

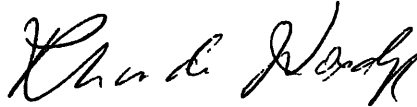
Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003). The Factual and Legal Analyses, which more fully explain the Commission's findings are enclosed.

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The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

Sincerely,

Thomasenia P. Duncan
Acting General Counsel



BY: Rhonda J. Vosdingh
Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

Enclosure
Factual and Legal Analyses

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